Orissa which have been severely affected by the scarcity of drinking water. In addition, an amount of Rs. 1.63 crores was also released for purchase of rigs and other equipments. Recently, the Central Government has approved a sum of Rs. 4.63 crores towards ceiling of expenditure under drought relief for supply of drinking water in rural areas inclusive of the above assistance.

(b) and (c) The *ad hoc* assistance released to the State Government is meant for all the scarcity affected areas including tribal and hill villages with acute shortage of water.

Allotment of Palmoline oil to Orissa

737. SHRI BASUDEB MOHAPATRA: Will the Minister of FOOD AND CIVIL SUPPLIES be pleased to state:

(a) the total requirement of edible oil for the State of Orissa during the year 1987-88 and the total quantity supplied during the months from April to October, 1987;

(b) what is the allotment of Palmoline oil to the State of Orissa during the months from April to October, 1987; and

(c) whether Government have formulated any policy for the distribution of Palmoline oil?

THE MINISTER OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS AND THE MINISTER OF FOOD AND CIVIL SUPPLIES (SHRI H. K. L. BHAGAT): (a) and (b) The demand made by the Government of Orissa for the Oil Year 1986-87 (Nov. 86- Oct 87) is 72 000 MTs. The total quantity of Palmoline oil allocated to Orissa from April 1987 to October, 1987 is 17,400 MTs against which they have lifted 10,152 MTs. The month-wise allocation of Palmoline oil to Orissa from April, 1987 to October, 1987 is as follows:

Month	Allocation under PDS including Small Packs
April 1987	1,050 Mts
May	1,250 Mts
June	1 400 Mts
July	1,600 Mts
August	3,500 Mts
September	3,800 Mts
October	4,800 Mts
TOTAL :	17,400 Mts

(c) The Central Government allocates the imported edible oil including Palmoline oil at a fixed issue price to States/Union Territories for supply through Public Distribution System. Further distribution of his oil is State's responsibility to whom guidelines regarding scale of distribution, consumer price chargeable regarding scale of distribution. consumer price chargeable and preventive and punitive measures to be taken against illegal diversion into unauthorised channels have been issued.

Reduction of staff in Field Publicity set up

738 SHRI KALPNATH RAI: SHRIMATI SUDHA VIJAY JOSHI:

Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government propose to reduce the staff employed under the Field Publicity set-up of the Ministry of Information and Broadcasting;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor; and

(c) how Government propose to provide alternative employment to the staff so affected and save them from unemployment?